

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Xia, et al.  
Application No. : 10/812,543  
Filed : March 29, 2004  
Title : ZINC PRESERVATIVE COMPOSITION AND METHOD OF USE  
Group/Art Unit : 1614  
Conf. No. : 3425  
Docket No. : P03459

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Commissioner of Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this paper.